



NEWS RELEASE

United States Department of Agriculture
NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS SERVICE
NORTHEASTERN REGIONAL FIELD OFFICE
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USDA Surveying Cattle, Milk, and Sheep and Goat Operations

HARRISBURG, PA – December through January, the U.S. Department of Agriculture's National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS) will be conducting a set of related livestock surveys, the *Cattle Report*, the *Milk Production Report*, and the *Sheep and Goat Report*.

"These surveys deal with important components of the Northeast's agriculture and it is crucial for us to have accurate data about these key sectors. This information helps producers make timely, informed business decisions and plans. It also helps packers and government leaders evaluate expected volume for future months and determine potential supplies for export," said King Whetstone, director of the NASS Northeastern Regional Field Office. "Obtaining current counts will serve as an important decision-making tool for the entire agricultural industry. These surveys give producers the opportunity to report the latest information on conditions and trends in their industry," stated Whetstone.

Operators surveyed will be asked to provide information about their livestock inventories, counts of births, and production and prices received for milk, wool and mohair.

To make it as easy as possible for producers to participate in the survey, NASS offers the option of responding online, by telephone, by mail, or through a personal interview with a local NASS representative.

NASS safeguards the privacy of all responses and publishes only State- and National-level data in aggregate, ensuring that no individual producer or operation can be identified.

NASS will publish the survey results in the January *Cattle Report*, the January *Milk Production Report*, and the January *Sheep and Goats* report. These and all NASS reports are available online at www.nass.usda.gov. For more information, call the NASS Northeastern Regional Field Office at (800) 498-1518.

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